Number of trekking spots in Himachal Pradesh

996. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the names of trekking spots in Himachal Pradesh;

(b) the number of trekking expeditions undertaken to Himachal Pradesh during the last two years;

(c) the steps being taken to promote trekking in the State; and

(d) whether any central aid has been asked in this matter, if so, the quantum of aid given?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SMT. USHA SINGH): (a) Dalhousie, Dharamshala, Manali, Narkanda, Shimla, Srahan and Nahan are among the places identified by the Government of Himachal Pradesh for establishing trekking bases in the State.

(b) Trekking expeditions are mostly organised by private parties, educational institutions and other organisers and as such no definite number can be indicated.

(c) Trekking being a major activity for the Himachal Pradesh the State Tourism Department is keenly promoting trekking attractions in the State through press and media.

(d) The Central Government has sanctioned an amount of Rs. 48.70 lakhs and released an amount of Rs. 37.38 lakhs for purchase of trekking equipment and constructions of trekkers' huts etc.

Re-orientation of P.D.S.

997. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether P.D.S, is to be re-oriented soon and linked with employment generation and nutrition programme as has been published in Economic Times of 20th November, 1990 and if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether Government are aware of a similar proposal put out in Consumer Confrontation (CERC, Ahmedabad) bulletin in June, 1986 issue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI SARWAR HUSSAIN): (a) There has been no change in Government's policy on PDS so far. The Government does not intend to reduce the number of beneficiaries of the System so far as weaker sections of the population are concerned.

(b) It has not come to the notice of this Department.

गांव अरकपुर बाग मोची, नई दिल्ली में श्मशानघाट का विकसित किया जाना

998. श्री इलेश्वर गौड़ा : क्या शहरी विकास मंत्री 7 सितम्बर, 1990 को राज्य सभा में अतारांकित प्रश्न 3696 के दिए गये उत्तर को देखेंगे और यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) दिल्ली प्रशासन, रेलवे, दिल्ली विकास प्राधिकरण तथा दिल्ली नगर निगम में से किस प्राधिकरण पर गाव अरकपुर बाग मोची, नई दिल्ली में श्मशान स्थल पर टिन शेडों का निर्माण करने तथा चबूतरा बनवाने की जिम्मेदारी है;

(ख) दिल्ली प्रशासन/रेलवे मे से कौन सा संगठन श्मशान स्थल के क्षेत्र का सीमांकन करके यह जमीन गाव के लोगों को देगा;

(ग) क्या यह सच है कि सरकार को इस संबंध में बहुत से अभ्यावेदन प्राप्त हुए हैं तथा उनके साथ वर्ष 1880 की फ़र्द लगाई गयी है; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो उसमें दिखायी गई भूमि का क्षेत्रफल कितने वर्ग गज है; तथा इस संबंध में सरकार की प्रतिक्रिया क्या है ?

शहरी विकास मंत्री (श्री दौलतराम सारण) : (क) से (घ) सूचना एकत्र की जा रही है तथा सभा पटल पर रख दी जायेगी।

Demolition of encroachments in Basant Village

999 SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had taken a decision in 1985 to demolish the illegal encroachments of Public thoroughfare and DDA's park, in Basant Village, New Delhi-57,

(b) the reasons for Government's inability to get the encroachments vacated during the last five years, and

(c) whether Government have taken any steps to get the stay vacated, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DAULAT RAM SARAN) (a) to (c) In December, 1985, Delhi Development Authority had informed that the site in Basant Village had been inspected and necsesary action for removal of the encroachement would be taken under the provisions of the Delhi Development Act, 1957 However, no demolition operation was conducted due to certain administrative problems In July, 1987 Basant Village was transferred to the jurisdiction of Municipal Corporation of Delhi Since MCD could not have taken action under the Delhi Development Act, it started de-nove proceedings under the Delhi Municipal Corporation Act, 1957 and passed orders for demolition of the unauthorised structures in turn as per the policy of the MCD Before demolition could be done by the MCD, affected party obtained stay orders from the court to the effect that no demolition should be done without following due process of law After examining legal aspect of the order, MCD has initiated procedings under the Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act

Export of Foodgrains

1000 SHRI A NALLASIVAN: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state

(a) whether a memorandum dated 21st November, 1990 addressed to the Prime Minister has been received from the Food Corporation of India Employees' Union, Southern Zone, Madras, expressing concern over proposed export of food-grains through the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation (MMTC),

(b) if so, the details of the representation,

(c) whether the Food Corporation of India has the capability to undertake the job relating to export of foodgrains,

(d) if so, the reasons for entrusting the job of export of foodgrains to MMTC, and

(e) whether Government propose to review the proposal and entrust the job of food-grains export to FCI, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI SARWAR HUSSAIN) (a) and (b) Yes, Sir The memorandum expresses concern over the canalisation of export of foodgrains through the MMTC and particularly requests that the stevedoring work relating to the proposed exports be entrusted to the FCI in view of the manpower, expertise and infrastructural facilities already available with the FCI

(c) Yes, Sir

(d) and (e) Government has asked STC/MMTC together to export 10 lakh MT of wheat to GCA countries